

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 01204 291555Z

15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

/063 W

----- 087142

R 291531Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9626

INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 1204

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, EG

SUBJECT: MINBAR STUDY COMMITTEE FORMED

REF: 75 CAIRO 11827

1. WHEN SADAT PUBLICLY CRITICIZED PROLIFERATION OF ASU POLITICAL GROUPINGS (MINBARS) IN SPEECH NOVEMBER 20, HE SUGGESTED STUDY GROUP BE FORMED TO EXAMINE THE ISSUE (REFTEL). IN HIS CAPACITY AS ASU CHAIRMAN, SADAT ISSUED DECREE ON JANUARY 26 GIVING NAMES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS CHARGED TO CONSIDER HOW MINBARS SHOULD OPERATE WITHIN ASU FRAMEWORK. DECREE STIPULATES PEOPLES ASSEMBLY SPEAKER WILL CHAIR 129-MAN COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BE MADE UP AS FOLLOWS: 50 FROM AUS CENTRAL COMMITTEE INCLUDING FIRST SECRETARY MAHGUB; 50 FROM PARLIAMENTARY BODY (MADE UP OF ASU AND PEOPLES ASSEMBLY); 28 INTELLECTUALS INCLUDING RECTORS OF ALL SEVEN UNIVERSITIES; 16 FROM PROFESSIONAL SYNDICATES (LAWYERS, DOCTORS, ETC.); 16 FROM TRADE UNIONS; ALL 20 MEMBERS OF HIGHER PRESS COUNCIL. (SIC - TOTAL IS IN EXCESS OF 129 BUT ALL PAPERS GAVE SAME FIGURES.)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAIRO 01204 291555Z

2. ACCORDING TO OUR CALCULATIONS, OF THE 129 MEMBERS,

62 ARE WORKERS AND FARMERS, TEN ARE COPTS AND NINE ARE WOMEN. THERE ARE THREE MUSLIM RELIGIOUS MEN AND THREE CHRISTIAN PRIESTS. NEITHER THE PRIMIN NOR ANY PRESENT CABINET MEMBERS ARE INCLUDED. AMONG INFLUENTIAL FORMER MINISTERS WHOSE NAMES DO APPEAR ARE ABD AL-QADIR HATIM AND SALAH GHARIB. NOTABLY MISSING FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP ARE WELL-KNOWN FIGURES WHO ACTUALLY ANNOUNCED THEY WERE ESTABLISHING MINBARS. ALSO OMITTED ARE SUCH HIGHLY VISIBLE COMMUNISTS AS KHALID MUHI AL-DIN, ALTHOUGH LUTFI AL-KHULI IS INCLUDED IN HIS CAPACITY AS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE MAGAZINE TAL'IA.

3. COMMENT: ONE OF REASONS WHY SADAT THREW SPANNER INTO BURGEONING MINBAR PROPOSAL WAS HIS CONCERN THAT FOUNDERS OF MANY MINBARS SEEMED TO CONSIDER THAT THEY WERE ESTABLISHING "PARTIES" WHICH WOULD DISCUSS FORMATION RATHER THAN IMPLEMENTATION OF ASU POLICIES. HE WAS CONCERNED, IN PARTICULAR, THAT IT WAS ONLY EXTREME LEFT (MUHI AL-DIN) AND EXTREME RIGHT (AZHAR) MINBARS WHICH WERE READY TO GO WITH PRE-PACKAGED PLATFORMS. VIRTUAL ABSENCE OF LEFTISTS ON NEW COMMITTEE WOULD SEEM TO REFLECT THIS CONCERN. THERE ARE SEVERAL NAMES ON LIST OF RATHER CONSERVATIVE-MINDED EGYPTIANS, BUT WE ARE UNABLE TO IDENTIFY ANY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EXTREME RIGHT.

4. SIZE OF COMMITTEE IS CLEARLY UNWIELDY AND ONE OF ITS MEMBERS HAS ALREADY REMARKED TO US THAT WORKING SUBCOMMITTEES WILL OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO BE FORMED. AS YET COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HAS NOT COMMUNICATED WITH MEMBERS AT ALL, BUT WE EXPECT ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING WILL OCCUR FAIRLY SOON.
EILTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY FACTIONS, COMMITTEES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAIRO01204
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760035-0006
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760111/aaaaaiuk.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 CAIRO 11827
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINBAR STUDY COMMITTEE FORMED
TAGS: PINT, EG, (SADAT, ANWAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006